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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

AFRICA.

Report from Cape Colony—Examination for plague-infected animals.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, July 3, 1905.

The following report by the medical officer of health for the Colony on the occurrence of bubonic plague in the Cape Colony for the week ended July 1, 1905, is published for general information.

NOEL JANISCH,
Under Colonial Secretary.

Port Elizabeth.—No case of plague was discovered during the week. At the plague hospital no cases were under treatment. One hundred rats (14 found dead) and 142 mice (17 found dead) were bacteriologically examined during the week, of which 10 rats and 4 mice proved to be plague-infected.

Uitenhage.—Eighty-three rats (3 found dead) and 10 mice (6 found dead) were bacteriologically examined during the week, of which 2 rats proved to be plague-infected.

East London.—No case of plague was discovered during the week. At the plague hospital, 1 European female and 1 native male were discharged. Three cases (including 1 from King Williams Town) remain under treatment. One hundred and seventy-seven rats (71 found dead) and 75 mice (22 found dead) were bacteriologically examined during the week, of which 6 rats and 1 mouse proved to be plague-infected.

King Williams Town.—No case of plague was discovered during the week. One hundred and two rats (10 found dead) and 29 mice (6 found dead) and 1 cat (found dead) were bacteriologically examined during the week, of which 2 rats and 1 mouse proved to be plague-infected.

Queenstown.—No further case of plague was discovered during the week. One native male remains under treatment.

Other districts of the Colony.—No plague-infection was discovered either in man or animals. Two hundred and fifty-five rodents were examined during the week from the Cape Town harbor board area and the shipping in the harbor, and 3 from various municipalities in the Cape Peninsula; also 668 were examined by the medical officer of health for the city from the Cape Town municipal area.

A. JOHN GREGORY,
Medical Officer of Health for the Colony.

AUSTRALIA.

Reports from Melbourne—Outbreak of plague at Maryborough—Plague bulletins—Plague in New South Wales.

Consul-General Bray, at Melbourne, forwards the following:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, QUEENSLAND,
Brisbane, June 10, 1905.

Plague bulletin No. 21, for week ending noon, June 10, 1905.

BRISBANE.

No case of plague occurred in Brisbane during the above-mentioned period.

Rats and mice.

	Rats.	Mice.	Total.
Rats and mice destroyed during week	265	81	346
Rats and mice examined at bacteriological institute	118	48	166
Rats and mice infected	0	0	0

Last infected rat June 2, 1905.

IPSWICH.

No case of plague occurred at Ipswich during above-mentioned period.

Rats and mice.—Ninety-eight rats and 25 mice from Ipswich were examined during the week at the bacteriological institute, Brisbane, and were reported to be free from plague infection.

Last infected rat May 16, 1905.

CHILDERS.

No further case of plague has occurred at Childers, and no infected rats have been found there during week.

MARYBOROUGH.

Girl, 19 years of age, a music teacher, residing on the premises of a confectioner's shop in the town, was reported to be suffering from plague on the 2d instant, and has since been removed to the local plague hospital.

The medical experts of the department are at present engaged at Maryborough investigating the nature of a disease regarded as suspicious of plague. Five deaths have occurred in one family from this disease, and 2 nurses who attended the cases have also died. Two other members of the same family are now under treatment. Every possible precaution is being taken to prevent the spread of infection. The result of the investigation referred to will appear in my next bulletin.

No plague-infected rats have so far been found at Maryborough.

B. BURNETT HAM,
Commissioner of Public Health.

BRISBANE, *June 17, 1905.*

Plague bulletin No. 22, week ending June 17, 1905.

NOTE.—In connection with the outbreak of plague at Maryborough, a special bulletin has been issued to-day.

BRISBANE.

One case of plague occurred in Brisbane during the week.

The patient, a housewife, aged 32 years, and a resident of West End, South Brisbane, was reported on the 14th instant. She was removed to the Colmslie Plague Hospital on the evening of the same day.

RATS AND MICE.

	Rats.	Mice.	Total.
Rats and mice destroyed during week.....	280	109	389
Rats and mice examined in bacteriological institute.....	124	61	185
Rats and mice infected.....	1	0	1

Last infected rat June 13, 1905.

The infected rat reported was found at a wharf in the city.

IPSWICH.

Though 131 rats and 3 mice from Ipswich were examined during the week at the Bacteriological Institute, Brisbane, none were found to be plague infected.

CHILDERS.

No infected rats or mice were reported from Childers during week.

B. BURNETT HAM,
Commissioner of Public Health.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, QUEENSLAND,
Brisbane, June 17, 1905.

Special plague bulletin relating to outbreak of the disease at Maryborough, issued at noon Saturday, June 17, instant.

MARYBOROUGH.

An outbreak of plague attended with the deaths of 8 persons, including 5 of one family, occurred at Maryborough, a city of 12,000 inhabitants, situated on the banks of the Mary River, about 20 miles from its entrance, and distant 167 miles by rail from Brisbane.

Case 1.—Hohn O'C., aged 17, employed as an assistant at a fruiterer's shop, Kent street; resided with his family at Newtown, Maryborough; was taken ill on Friday, May 19; died at his home on Thursday, May 25; was seen by a local practitioner day before death; body lay unburied for 58 hours; cause of death certified as "pneumonia."

Case 2.—Ellen O'C., aged 7, sister of above; schoolgirl, sickened May 28; removed to Maryborough General Hospital same day; died May 31; no post-mortem; certified as "pneumonia post dengue."

Case 3.—James O'C., aged 15; schoolboy, brother of above; taken ill May 28; admitted to General Hospital May 29; died May 31; no post-mortem; certified as "broncho-pneumonia."

Case 4.—Mary O'C., aged 3½, sister of above. Onset May 28; removed to General Hospital May 29; died June 3; post-mortem examination June 3, "plague-pneumonia;" chest symptoms did not develop until fourth day in hospital.

Case 5.—Richard O'C., aged 10, brother of above, employed on May 27 at same shop as case 1; taken ill May 30; removed to General Hospital same day; died June 2; post-mortem examination showed that death was due to "plague-pneumonia."

Case (a).—Kate O'C., aged 18, sister of above, domestic duties; removed to General Hospital May 28 with case 2; headache, vomiting, and pyrexia previous to admission; discharged convalescent

June 6 and removed to plague hospital as a "contact" on same day; remains in good health.

Case (b).—May O'C., aged 9, sister of above; removed with case (a) to General Hospital on May 28; headache and vomiting previous to removal to hospital and developed pain in chest while there; discharged convalescent and removed to plague hospital as a "contact" on June 5; has remained in good health.

The above cases (a and b) were the only two children of the O'C. family who survived.

Case 6.—L. E., aged 49, housewife. Resided at corner Sussex and Pallas streets, Maryborough; attended cases 2 and 3 before their removal to the hospital on May 28; developed symptoms similar to these cases; died at her home after three days' illness on May 31; death certificate refused by two local medical practitioners; post-mortem examination ordered by the commissioner of public health; body removed and buried before the examination could be carried out.

Case 7.—C. B., aged 22, staff nurse, general hospital, Maryborough; night nurse in charge of ward for month of May. Had charge of cases 2, 3, and 4 from their admission until May 30; taken ill June 3 with respiratory symptoms, cough, and expectoration; temperature, 105; pulse, uncountable; respirations, 60; died June 6; sputum contained bacilli pestis, pneumococci, and streptococci; certified as "plague-pneumonia."

Case 8.—R. W., aged 28, staff nurse on night duty at general hospital, Maryborough. Attended cases 4, 5, and 7; complained of headache and malaise; temperature, 105 on morning of June 8; clinical symptoms of a lobular pneumonia; on 9th cough and expectoration and pains in chest; sputum watery and abundant; contained enormous number of bacilli pestis; died June 12; "plague-pneumonia."

Case 9.—E. S., aged 28; staff nurse, Maryborough General Hospital. Attended case 8. Sickened June 10. No chest symptoms. No cough. No expectoration. Temperature, 103; pulse, 120; respirations, 23. At present in general hospital under treatment.

Case 10.—M. C., aged 19, music teacher. Resided at home; father keeps a confectioner's shop in Kent street, Maryborough; onset, 21st May; removed to plague hospital on June 2. This case was one of ordinary bubonic plague and has no connection with the cases reported above. This patient is now convalescent.

REMARKS.

After the death of case 8 the general hospital was strictly isolated, and the plague-nursing staff of the department of public health was, under the direction of Doctor Baxter-Tyrie, one of the health officers attached to the department, placed in charge. Each of the nurses and doctors received 20 cm. of curative serum as a prophylactic dose, and as a further precaution the use of overalls and respirators by both nurses and doctors was insisted upon.

The general hospital is still in charge of the departmental staff, and it is not anticipated that further developments will take place.

B. BURNETT HAM,
Commissioner of Public Health.

BRISBANE, *June 24, 1905.*

Plague bulletin No. 23, for week ended noon Saturday, June 24:

BRISBANE.

No case of plague occurred in Brisbane during the week.

Summary.

Number of cases to date.....	29
Cases declared during week.....	0
Cases discharged.....	0
Remaining under treatment.....	1
Deaths during the week.....	0

Last case reported June 14, 1905.

Rats and mice (Brisbane).

	Rats.	Mice.	Total.
Rats and mice destroyed during week.....	535	109	644
Rats and mice examined at Bacteriological Institute.....	136	50	186
Rats and mice infected.....	3	0	3

Last infected rat reported June 23, 1905.

Premises where infected rats were found.—Shop, Queen street; wharf, city; oyster saloon, Queen street.

MARYBOROUGH.

No further case of plague has occurred at Maryborough.

Case 9, E. S., reported in special plague bulletin issued on 17th instant, is now convalescent.

Case 10, M. C., reported in same bulletin, discharged, and the plague hospital closed.

The house occupied by the O'C. family, together with the whole of the contents thereof, was burned on June 3, instant.

All the bedding and contents of the rooms and wards occupied by the O'C. family and by the affected nurses in the Maryborough General Hospital were also destroyed by fire.

All the patients and "contacts" have now been discharged from the Maryborough General Hospital.

The general hospital is at present in the hands of the departmental gang, and will undergo a thorough disinfection before being reoccupied. Meanwhile an auxiliary hospital is being conducted in the Reception House buildings, which are in another quarter of the town.

A detailed report of an official inquiry into the circumstances of the outbreak, together with an account of the measures taken by the Department in the matter, will be forwarded next week.

IPSWICH.

Of 66 rats and 4 mice from Ipswich examined at the Bacteriological Institute during the week none were reported to be plague-infected.

B. BURNETT HAM,
Commissioner of Public Health.

Brisbane—Analysis of rats and mice destroyed for the month of May, 1905.

ANALYSIS OF LOCATION.

Location.	May.		Previous month.	
	Rats.	Mice.	Rats.	Mice.
City	770	153	736	112
Kangaroo Point.....	298	7	0	0
Valley	73	6	44	13
New Farm	0	0	38	4
Springhill.....	143	37	116	17
Petrie Terrace	0	0	47	32
Newstead	52	11	0	0
Bowen Hills	0	0	0	0
Roma and George street area	308	160	338	98
Total for Brisbane	1,644	374	1,319	276
South Brisbane (city).....	13	0	92	7
Woolloongabba	71	15	6	0
West End	0	0	15	1
Total for South Brisbane.....	84	15	107	8
Other local authorities in met. area	838	11	949	63
River bank, ships, and wharves.....	69	2	78	15
Total rats and mice.....	2,635	402	2,453	362

ANALYSIS OF EXAMINATION.

	May.	Previous month.
Rats examined at Bacteriological Institute.....	1,424	1,248
Mice examined at Bacteriological Institute	342	313
Rats not examined	1,211	1,205
Mice not examined	60	49
Total rats and mice	3,037	2,815

ANALYSIS OF INFECTED RATS.

	May.	Previous month.
Grocery and produce store.....	1	
Hotels	2	
Produce stores	1	
Stables	1	
Wholesale warehouses	2	
Total	7	3

SPECIES.

Mus decumanus	2
Mus rattus	5
Mus alexandrinus	0
Total	7

Rats with pigmented glands were found in the following places during the month: Trout's slaughter yards, Enoggera; Howes Brothers' produce store, Eagle street. The last-mentioned rat was also infected.

W. H. A. MUNRO,
Inspector Health Department.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH,
STATE OF NEW SOUTH WALES,
Sydney, June 6, 1905.

Bubonic plague bulletin No. 10, complete to midnight on Saturday, June 3, 1905.

SYDNEY.

Plague in man:

Patients remaining under treatment May 27, 1905.....	6
Admitted during week.....	0
Discharged during week (cases 11, 12, 13).....	3
Died during week.....	0
Remaining under treatment June 3, 1905.....	3

Plague in rats:

Number of rats destroyed.....	1,649
Number of mice destroyed.....	1,347
	2,996
Number of rats examined.....	406
Number of mice examined.....	410
	816
Number of rats infected.....	0
Number of mice infected.....	0

NEWCASTLE.

Plague in man:

Patients remaining under treatment May 27, 1905.....	4
Admitted during week.....	2
Discharged during week (cases 6 and 9).....	2
Died during week.....	0
Remaining under treatment June 3, 1905.....	4

Plague in rats:

Number of rats destroyed.....	342
Number of mice destroyed.....	176
	518
Number of rats examined.....	342
Number of mice examined.....	176
	518
Number of rats infected.....	19
Number of mice infected.....	3

22

NORTHERN RIVERS.

Lismore:

Patients remaining under treatment May 27, 1905.....	2
Admitted during week.....	1
Discharged during week.....	0
Died during week.....	0
Remaining under treatment June 3, 1905.....	3

Ballina:

A further case occurred at Ballina on May 31. This is the fourth case which has occurred there, the first being on February 11, 1905.

G. H. KING, *Secretary.*

SYDNEY, *June 29, 1905.***Bubonic Plague Bulletin No. 12, complete to midnight on Saturday, June 17 1905:**

SYDNEY.

Plague in man:	
Patients remaining under treatment June 10, 1905.....	2
Admitted during week.....	0
Discharged during week (cases 8 and 15).....	2
Died during week.....	0
Remaining under treatment June 17, 1905.....	0
Plague in rats:	
Number of rats destroyed.....	1,400
Number of mice destroyed.....	1,349
	2,749
Number of rats examined.....	261
Number of mice examined.....	451
	712
Number of rats found infected.....	0
Number of mice found infected.....	0

All cases have now been discharged from hospital and the plague wards closed.

As no plague rat has been found since May 4, and the last case of plague (No. 16) was notified on May 23, no further bulletin will be issued for Sydney unless other developments arise.

NEWCASTLE.

Plague in man:	
Patients remaining under treatment June 10, 1905.....	5
Admitted during week.....	0
Discharged during week (case 10).....	1
Died during week.....	0
Remaining under treatment June 17, 1905.....	4
Plague in rats:	
Number of rats destroyed.....	306
Number of mice destroyed.....	148
	454
Number of rats examined.....	306
Number of mice examined.....	148
	454
Number of rats found infected.....	3
Number of mice found infected.....	4
	7

NORTHERN RIVERS.

Lismore:	
Patients remaining under treatment June 10, 1905.....	1
Admitted during week.....	0
Discharged during week.....	0
Died during week.....	0
Remaining under treatment June 17, 1905.....	1
Ballina:	
Case 4 still under treatment.	

G. H. KING, *Secretary.*

SYDNEY, *June 13, 1905.*

Bubonic plague bulletin No. 11. Complete to midnight on Saturday, June 10, 1905:

SYDNEY.

Plague in man:	
Patients remaining under treatment June 3, 1905.....	3
Admitted during week.....	0
Discharged during week (case 14)	1
Died during week.....	0
Remaining under treatment June 10, 1905.....	2
Plague in rats:	
Number of rats destroyed.....	1,663
Number of mice destroyed.....	1,476
	3,139
Number of rats examined.....	317
Number of mice examined.....	453
	770
Number of rats infected.....	0
Number of mice infected.....	0

NEWCASTLE.

Plague in man:	
Patients remaining under treatment June 3, 1905	4
Admitted during week.....	1
Discharged during week	0
Died during week	0
Remaining under treatment June 10, 1905.....	5
Plague in rats:	
Number of rats destroyed.....	262
Number of mice destroyed.....	131
	393
Number of rats examined.....	262
Number of mice examined.....	131
	393
Number of rats infected	2
Number of mice infected	0
	2

NORTHERN RIVERS.

Lismore:	
Patients remaining under treatment June 3, 1905	3
Admitted during week.....	0
Discharged during week (cases 5 and 6).....	2
Died during week	0
Remaining under treatment June 10, 1905.....	1

Ballina:

Case 4 still in hospital; no further developments.

G. H. KING, *Secretary.*

BRAZIL.

Reports from Bahia—Mortality—Smallpox.

Consul Furniss reports, June 19, 26, and July 3, as follows:

During the week ended June 17, 1905, 75 bodies were interred in the Bahia cemeteries.